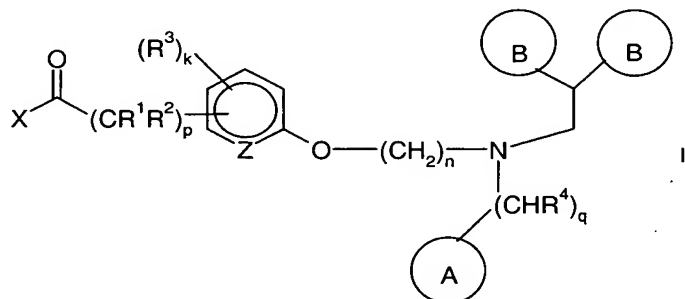


Amendments to the claims

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

1. (Original): A method of treating or preventing IBD in a mammal; comprising, administering a therapeutically effective amount of LXR agonist, or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt, solvate, or physiologically functional derivative thereof.
2. (Original): The method of claim 1 in which IBD is selected from the group consisting of Crohn's disease, ulcerative colitis, and inflammatory colitis caused by bacteria, ischemia, radiation, drugs or chemical substances.
3. (Currently amended): The method according to claim 1 ~~or 2~~, wherein the LXR agonist is a compound of formula (II):



wherein:

X is OH or NH₂;

p is 0-6;

each R¹ and R² are the same or different and are each independently selected from the group consisting of H, C₁₋₈alkyl, C₁₋₈alkoxy and C₁₋₈thioalkyl;

Z is CH or N;

when Z is CH, k is 0-4;

when Z is N, k is 0-3;

each R³ is the same or different and is independently selected from the group consisting of halo, -OH, C₁₋₈alkyl, C₂₋₈alkenyl, C₁₋₈alkoxy, C₂₋₈alkenyloxy, -S(O)_aR⁶, -NR⁷R⁸, -COR⁶, COOR⁶, R¹⁰COOR⁶, OR¹⁰COOR⁶, CONR⁷R⁸, -OC(O)R⁹, -R¹⁰NR⁷R⁸, -OR¹⁰NR⁷R⁸, 5-6 membered heterocycle, nitro, and cyano;

a is 0, 1 or 2;

R^6 is selected from the group consisting of H, C_{1-8} alkyl, C_{1-8} alkoxy and C_{2-8} alkenyl;

each R^7 and R^8 are the same or different and are each independently selected from the group consisting of H, C_{1-8} alkyl, C_{2-8} alkenyl, C_{3-8} alkynyl;

R^9 is selected from the group consisting of H, C_{1-8} alkyl and $-NR^7R^8$;

R^{10} is C_{1-8} alkyl;

n is 2-8;

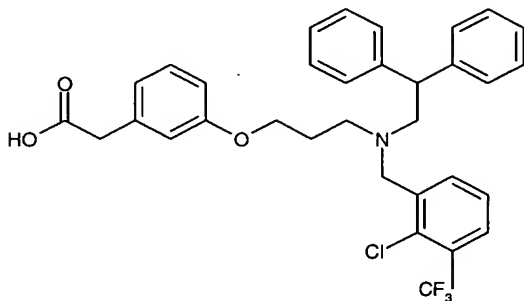
q is 0 or 1;

R^4 is selected from the group consisting of H, C_{1-8} alkyl, C_{1-8} alkenyl, and alkenyloxy;

Ring A is selected from the group consisting of C_{3-8} cycloalkyl, aryl, 4-8 membered heterocycle, and 5-6 membered heteroaryl;

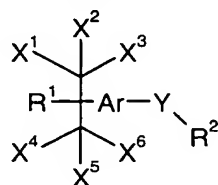
each ring B is the same or different and is independently selected from the group consisting of C_{3-8} cycloalkyl and aryl.

4. (Original): The method according to claim 3, in which the LXR agonist is the compound of formula (IIa)



(IIa)

5. (Currently amended): The method according to claim 1 ~~or 2~~, wherein the LXR agonist is a compound of compounds of formula (I):

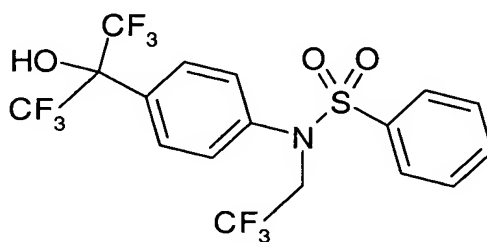


(I)

wherein:

Ar represents an aryl group; R^1 is $-\text{OH}$, $-\text{O}-(\text{C}_1\text{-C}_7)\text{alkyl}$, $-\text{OC}(\text{O})-(\text{C}_1\text{-C}_7)\text{alkyl}$, $-\text{O}-(\text{C}_1\text{-C}_7)\text{heteroalkyl}$, $-\text{OC}(\text{O})-(\text{C}_1\text{-C}_7)\text{heteroalkyl}$, $-\text{CO}_2\text{H}$, $-\text{NH}_2$, $-\text{NH}(\text{C}_1\text{-C}_7)\text{alkyl}$, $-\text{N}((\text{C}_1\text{-C}_7)\text{alkyl})_2$ or $-\text{NH-S}(\text{O})_2-(\text{C}_1\text{-C}_5)\text{alkyl}$;
 R^2 is $(\text{C}_1\text{-C}_7)\text{alkyl}$, $(\text{C}_1\text{-C}_7)\text{heteroalkyl}$, aryl and aryl $(\text{C}_1\text{-C}_7)\text{alkyl}$;
 X^1 , X^2 , X^3 , X^4 , X^5 and X^6 are each independently H, $(\text{C}_1\text{-C}_5)\text{alkyl}$, $(\text{C}_1\text{-C}_5)\text{heteroalkyl}$, F or Cl, with the proviso that no more than three of X^1 through X^6 are H, $(\text{C}_1\text{-C}_5)\text{alkyl}$ or $(\text{C}_1\text{-C}_5)\text{heteroalkyl}$; and
 Y is $-\text{N}(\text{R}^{12})\text{S}(\text{O})_m-$, $-\text{N}(\text{R}^{12})\text{S}(\text{O})_m\text{N}(\text{R}^{13})-$, $-\text{N}(\text{R}^{12})\text{C}(\text{O})-$, $-\text{N}(\text{R}^{12})\text{C}(\text{O})\text{N}(\text{R}^{13})-$, $-\text{N}(\text{R}^{12})\text{C}(\text{S})-$ or $-\text{N}(\text{R}^{12})\text{C}(\text{O})\text{O}-$, wherein R^{12} and R^{13} are each independently hydrogen, $(\text{C}_1\text{-C}_7)\text{aryl}$, $(\text{C}_1\text{-C}_7)\text{heteroalkyl}$, aryl and aryl $(\text{C}_1\text{-C}_7)\text{alkyl}$, and optionally when Y is $-\text{N}(\text{R}^{12})\text{S}(\text{O})_m-$ or $-\text{N}(\text{R}^{12})\text{S}(\text{O})_m\text{N}(\text{R}^{13})-$, R^{12} forms a five, six or seven-membered ring fused to Ar or to R^2 through covalent attachment to Ar or R^2 , respectively. In the above Y groups, the subscript m is an integer of from 1 to 2.

6. (Original): The method according to claim 5, in which the LXR agonist is the compound of formula Ia



Ia